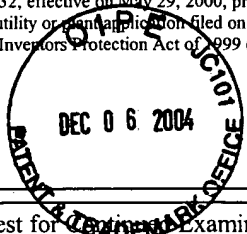


Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).	Application No.	09/469,586
	Filing Date	December 22, 1999
	Named Inventor(s)	
	Sterling Michael Pearson	
	Group/Art Unit	2134
	Confirmation No.	5130
Examiner Name	Andrew L. Nalven	
Attorney Docket No.	07609.105002	



This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice. Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (mar. 20, 2000), 1222 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR § 1.116 previously filed on _____. (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____.
- iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Preliminary Amendment/Response to Final Office Action (29 pages).
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☒ Other Three-Month Extension of Time.

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2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR § 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other _____

3. Fees (The RCE fee under 37 CFR § 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.)

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 11-0980.
- i. ☒ RCE Fee required under 37 CFR § 1.17(e) \$395.00.
- ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 CFR §§ 1.136 and 1.17) \$490.00
- iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ Checks in the amounts of \$395 (Check #452285); and \$490 (Check #452286).
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

Signature of Applicant, Attorney or Agent Required

Steven P. Wigmore, Esq.
KING & SPALDING LLP
45th Floor, 191 Peachtree Street, N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

By: [Signature] Reg. No. 40,447
Date: December 3, 2004
Telephone: 404.572.4600 Facsimile: 404.572.5145
Customer No. 20786

Certificate of Mailing or Transmission

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop RCE, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on December 3, 2004.

[Signature]
Steven P. Wigmore, Reg. No. 40,447